

U.S. Small Business Administration



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA'S FRESNO DISTRICT OFFICE LAUNCHES ITS FIRST- EVER SMALL BUSINESS HOTLINE

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA – The U.S. Small Business Administration's Fresno District Office has launched its first-ever **Small Business Hotline** to address the concerns that small businesses face during the current economic climate and credit crunch. The SBA Fresno District Office has heard from small businesses that are concerned about the ongoing effects of rising energy, fuel and food costs to their bottom line, in addition to the recent credit tightening and drop in consumer spending.

The purpose of **Small Business Hotline** is to give small business owners a single phone number they can call with business related questions. **The phone number is 559.487.5785 ext 117.** Expert business advisors are standing by to expedite these calls and provide confidential counseling, free of charge.

"We realize that these are challenging times for all small businesses and that small businesses should not feel that they are alone in facing these challenges," comments Carlos G. Mendoza, SBA's Fresno district director. "I know that we can help and all of our Resource Partners including the Small Business Development Centers, SCORE, and Women's Business Center including our SBA lenders are committed to helping small businesses succeed. Small business owners can get advice on ways to enhance their marketing plans, re-evaluate their business plans, and look for new sources of financing. Business counseling services are confidential, free of charge and are available across our 15-county district."

SBA Small Business Hotline: 559.487.5785 ext 117

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